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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Indochina	REPORT NO.		25X1
SUBJECT	Fifth Month Harvest in Democratic Republic of Vietnam Zones	DATE DISTR.	10 November 1953	
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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- 25X11. The last fifth month harvest in the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRV) zone yielded two-thirds of the average in Interzone III and IV. It was possible to gather the harvest without being disturbed by military operations or without destroying it to prevent it from falling into enemy hands.
2. Because of the uncultivated area of land and the destruction of dams in Bai Thuong (N 19-53, E 105-22) and Do Luong, it is estimated that in Interzone IV the rice harvest is half the normal yield and the harvest of other crops such as potatoes, maize, sesame, and beans, has increased as compared with other years by a ratio of three to two. The land became unsuitable for the cultivation of rice because the dams were destroyed, but it could be utilized to raise other crops, which explains this increase in productivity.
3. The harvest is the worst in the Viet Bac-Thai Nguyen, Tuyen Quang, and Phu Tho areas. The crops were partially destroyed by bombardment and by bad weather. It is estimated that two-thirds of the crop was lost. It will be necessary this year to transport a great quantity of paddy from Interzones III and IV to the Viet Bac to supplement the shortage in this area.
4. For several months, the DRV has levied taxes on agriculture (thue nong nghiep), half of which are collected in money and the other half in kind. DRV cooperatives (Mau Dich) are buying paddy from the population at a relatively low price.

25X1 Comment. These estimates have been made only in the region of Thai Nguyen

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